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On October 14 at Lowe's® Motor Speedway, Kasey Kahne and the No. 38 Great Clips Dodge team rolled out all of the "covert" tracks tactics as they shared the NASCAR Busch Series race day spotlight with *Spy vs. Spy Jr.* from *MAD Kids* magazine.

Starting in November, *Spy vs. Spy Jr.* will leap forth from the pages of *MAD Kids* in a continuing story of pint-sized enemies who fight their never-ending battle with cream pies, slingshots and water balloons. *MAD* Magazine featured the No. 38 Great Clips/*Spy vs. Spy Jr.* Dodge Charger as part of the launch for the new *MAD Kids*, which is designed to appeal to children ages 6 to 11.

The No. 38 Great Clips/*Spy vs. Spy Jr.* Dodge Charger marked the second time Kahne teamed with *MAD* Magazine for a paint scheme special. Last season, the original *Spy vs. Spy* made an appearance aboard the No. 9 Dodge at the NASCAR Cup Series race in Atlanta.

For information about *Spy vs. Spy Jr./MAD Kids* race program collectibles or other Kasey Kahne racing-inspired merchandise, call or visit your preferred Action brand products dealer.

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MAD

DECEMBER 2005 NUMBER 460

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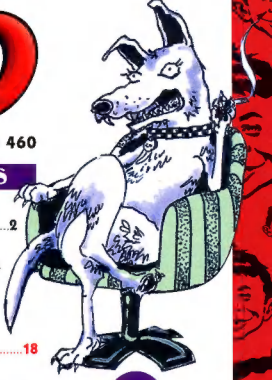

FRONT COVER ARTIST:
MARK FREDRICKSON

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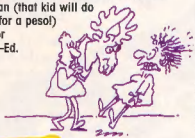
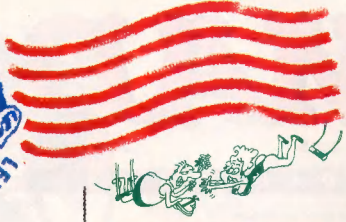
A SPANISH INQUISITION

This summer vacation I went to visit my family in Mexico. One day I went to a magazine store in Mexico and I saw MAD in Spanish. Since I didn't have any money to buy one when I was there I want to ask you something. Are the Spanish MADs just translated versions of the English ones, or do different artists and writers make them?

Gerardo Perez, Oakland, CA

Perez Dispenser — Good question — or should we say "bueno pregunta"? No, we were right the first time! In truth, the Mexican version has both translated stuff from American MAD, as well as new material created by the Mexican staff. Fortunately, Mexican MAD has a crack team of artists and writers including — Juan Caldwello, Ricardo Tulkado, Desmondo Devlino, Jacobito Lamberto and, of course, Arie Kaplan (that kid will do anything for a peso!) Gracias for writing! —Ed.



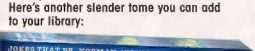


WHAT'S THE MATADOR?

I resent and I extremely disapprove that you listed in the Fundalini Pages (MAD #457) in the "Updated Library of Extremely Thin Books" the book titled "Notable Jewish Bullfighters." Have you ever heard of the world famous Jewish bullfighter Sidney (Frumpkin) Franklin? Born in Brooklyn, he went on to be a renowned bullfighter in Mexico and Spain. Ernest Hemingway wrote of Franklin that he was "one of the most skillful, graceful and slow manipulators of the cape in his day." So yes, there was a "great and notable Jewish bullfighter"— I want an acknowledgement of Sidney Franklin.

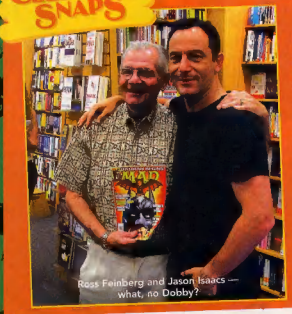
Dr. Norman Goodman, Langhorne, PA

Stormin' Norman — Good lord, you're right! Sidney (Frumpkin) Franklin! How could we forget "The Frump"?!? He *was* a famous Jewish bullfighter! Boy, that brings the tally to...one! So you can see why it would be a *thin* book, Doctor. We didn't call the piece "The Updated Library of Non-Existent Books," did we? Here's another slender tome you can add to your library:



Happy reading and feel free to write in again if you need this joke explained to you as well! —Ed.

MAD CELEBRITY SNAPS



Ross Feinberg and Jason Isaacs — what, no Dobby?

Here I am with Jason Isaacs who plays the villainous Mr. Malfoy in the *Harry Potter* movies. Jason is in Rhode Island filming the *Brotherhood* series for Showtime. I met him through my son Steven, who is Director of Film and TV for the state of Rhode Island. I've been an EC fan since the '40s and was an avid reader of MAD, Panic, The Haunt of Fear comics and am now a subscriber to MAD Magazine.

Ross Feinberg, Los Angeles, CA

Fein and Dandy — Your Celebrity Snap comes just in time for the release of a little sleeper film called *Harry Potter and The Goblet of Fire*. We're hoping this little plug will raise awareness of the project and help it make a bit of money! Congrats on your free MAD subscription! —Ed.

MAD FAN OF THE MONTH

I have been a reader and subscriber of the insights from the Usual Gang of Idiots for the past 40 years. I was one of those kids who took their MADs with them to college because I was afraid my mom would toss them out. My collection has moved with me so many times I've lost count. Your magazine has always had the most honest commentary on our society and culture, our entertainment, our government and our lifestyles. It has shaped me into who I am today. Some days I'm not too sure what shape that exactly is, but I have a great sense of humor and positive outlook on life thanks to your magazine coming to my house each month and making me laugh. Enclosed is a photo of me with my MADs...all 276 and counting. I think this qualifies me for top honors as MAD Fan of the Month.

Ron Cohn, Santa Rosa, CA

Wrath of Cohn — You've managed to pull off the rare double whammy of MAD Letters Page contests! Not only are you the MAD Fan of the Month, but you're also the winner of our newest feature, "The Captured Saddam Hussein Look-A-Like of the Month" contest! These are two titles that are sure to impress the ladies. Thanks for writing and good luck with your trial at The Hague! —Ed.

SOUND BITES

I thought you guys might be interested to know I was listening to "The Osgood File" on the radio the other day and Charles Osgood wrapped up his commentary on some sort of financial responsibility diatribe by saying: "Just as the philosopher Alfred E. Neuman once said, 'What, me worry?'" Gee, after 40 years of reading your magazine, I never once thought of ol' Alfred as being a philosopher. This certainly sheds new light on how I will receive your magazine from now on. It's not only a load of crap...but it's an intelligent load of crap!

Jeff Osterhage, Burbank, CA

Oster La Vista — We wish we could say the same thing about your letter! —Ed.

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Make a Dumb Wish Foundation™

I have been wanting to make a dumb wish for a while now, and I finally thought of something for your great magazine. I have some great parents, but they aren't exactly technologically inclined. I don't have a TV in my room, our computer is slower than a slug's digestive tract and our family room TV is about 26 inches. But, worst of all, we don't even have cable! I get 8 channels (one of which is Spanish) and it takes a lot of work to tune them in sometimes. I have pleaded with them, but gotten no results. So my dumb wish is for you guys at the *Make A Dumb Wish Foundation*™ to write a lengthy letter to my parents (Chris and Christine) explaining why they should pay for cable. Or, you could skip all that ugliness and buy us a big screen TV.

Nick Kuell, Danbury, CT

Nickelback — We here at the *Make A Dumb Wish Foundation*™ are having a hard time figuring out what's dumb about your wish. I mean, c'mon, who *wouldn't* want free cable? We went ahead anyway, though, and ordered you the special "MAD Entertainment Package." Soon your 26-inch TV will be bursting with shows on these awesome stations: B.A.T. (Ben Affleck Television), The Ukranian Cartoon Network, The Scrabble Channel, ABC's Dysfunctional Family, The Expired Food Network and of course, the Oxygen Network (or "The Oh!" to those in the know!) We know you will have many hours of entertainment with your new cable system. Thanks for writing to the *Make A Dumb Wish Foundation*™! —Ed.

THE WORKING MAD

Recently we got an e-mail from a worker at Weiden+Kennedy, the ad agency behind campaigns for Nike and ESPN, calling our attention to this Alfred E. Neuman Post-it mosaic. He credited the "artwork" — which is on display in the atrium of the agency's headquarters — to the students of Weiden+Kennedy's advertising school. Hey guys, wasting time and office supplies — well done!

DOWN IN THE DUMPS

I'm writing to inform you that your magazine is too short! I like to read it while sitting on the toilet and I can blast through the entire issue in one sitting. I like to get several sittings or movements out of my reading material. So, how about extending your toilet rag for maximum enjoyment.

C.W. Marshall, Sewell, NJ

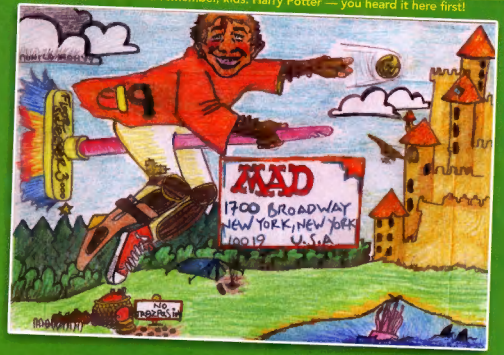
Marshmallow — Geez, you didn't go directly from reading the magazine to writing this letter, did you? Ewww, gross! On further consideration, we decided that you're right — we need a longer version of MAD made especially to read while in the bathroom. We could even call it *The MAD Bathroom Companion*. Hey, wait a minute, we've already put out FOUR of them, you moron! Why don't you go out and buy them now…if you're able to tear yourself away from your beloved toilet long enough! —Ed.

THE BIG QUESTION

Back in MAD #456 we brought back a treasured feature we called "MAD's Big Question." In the newest installment we asked readers to tell us "What celebrity would you like to see eating a Mad Cow-tainted cheesesteak on *Fear Factor*?" And the celebrity that got the most votes is…that couch-jumping wackadoo, Mr. Tom Cruise! (In a close second was super-useless professional bimbo Paris Hilton, and in a surprising tie for third — professional himbo Brad Pitt and right-wing bimbo Ann Coulter!) We'd like to take this opportunity to wish Tom all the luck in his upcoming marriage…before the inevitable divorce occurs. Thanks to all who voted and be sure to write in with your votes for this issue's Big Question!

ENVELOPE OF THE MONTH

In our continuing quest to get the word out on *Harry Potter*, we present this Harry Potter-inspired Envelope of the Month, sent in by Monica Morales O'Hagan of the Canary Islands, Spain. Thanks, Monica and remember, kids: Harry Potter — you heard it here first!



MAD'S BIG QUESTION OF THE ISSUE

Which celebrity's iPod would you like to see cranked up to a dangerously high volume?

Send in your pick to Amy "The Big Question" Vozeolas, c/o MAD Magazine, 1700 Broadway, New York, NY 10019.

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BECK ISSUES

I watch music videos all the time and when I was watching new videos on TV, I saw Beck's video for "Girl." I notice how things fold-in like the MAD Fold-in. I also think I saw Al Jaffee's name on one of the television sets in the video. There was also Alfred's lips with the missing tooth at the end of it. Please tell me, did Beck ask you for help?

John Higginson, Philadelphia, PA

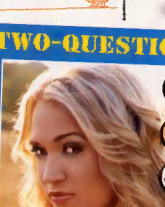
Port-A-John — As we first reported way back in MAD #456, Beck's "Girl" video is filled with Fold-ins come to life! To answer your question, Beck did get Al Jaffee's blessing before making the video. To see the video's Fold-ins in detail, check out our special feature in MAD Classics # 4 on sale December 20th! —Ed.

READER ALERT

Everyone that got their missive published in this month's Letters Page will receive a free copy of *Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire* for PlayStation 2 courtesy of EA Games! (Boy, this movie might just make some cash after all!) For those who didn't get their letters printed, don't worry — the game is on sale now! Go to www.masterthemagic.com to check it out yourself!

MAD'S TWO-QUESTION INTERVIEW!

We were lucky enough to corner *American Idol* champ, Carrie Underwood, who took time out of her schedule to endure the most intense grilling since her days in front of Simon!



QUESTION ONE: How would you feel about this being a three-question interview?

CARRIE: Sounds great! No problem.

QUESTION TWO: Ooooh, well, we only prepared for a two-question interview. Is it okay if we just stick with the original plan?

CARRIE: Sure.

Thank you for taking part in MAD's 2-Question Interview!

To read more from Carrie, be sure to check out her full interview in MAD Kids #2 — and buy her new album *Some Hearts* on sale now!

Guarantee: MAD's Two-Question Interviews are genuine and presented verbatim!

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Paul Levitz, President and Publisher, September 28, 2005

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the usual gang of idiots

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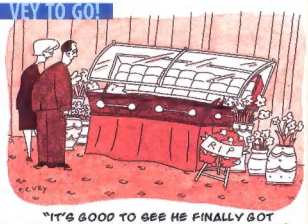


"IT'S GOOD TO SEE HE FINALLY GOT SOME USE OUT OF THAT SNEEZE GUARD"

MELVIN & JENKINS' GUIDE TO CELL PHONES

Jenkins catalogs and remembers which areas of town are the "dead zones" that can disconnect an important call.

Melvin discovers the clearest reception for his anonymous obscene calls happens to be from the uppermost branch of the tree outside his subject's bedroom window.

PAGES

IF THE NEXT HARRY POTTER MOVIE WAS DIRECTED BY:

GEORGE LUCAS
director of *Star Wars*

The digitally-created character Dobby the House Elf is made much harder to understand and much more ethnically offensive.

WOODY ALLEN
director of *Annie Hall* and *Manhattan*

Dumbledore pursues a romantic relationship with Hermione.

MATT STONE & TREY PARKER
directors of *South Park* and *Team America*

Finally, the moment you've all been waiting for: Moaning Myrtle meets Mr. Hanky!

MEL GIBSON
director of *The Passion of the Christ*

The entire film shows Hogwarts students giving up potions and spells in order to study Aramaic, intercut with graphic scenes depicting the slow and painful death of Harry's parents.

THE FAST 5

5 THINGS OVERHEARD AT THE WEDDING OF DEMI MOORE & ASHTON KUTCHER

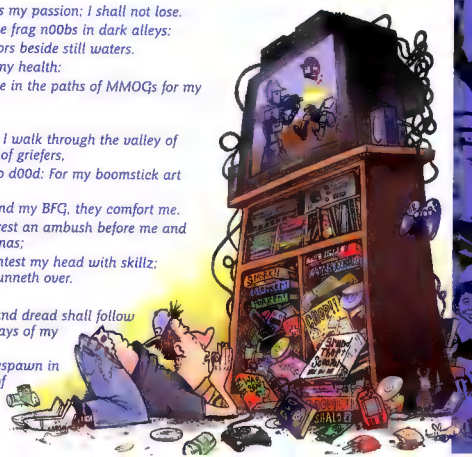
1. I didn't even know Von Dutch made yarmulkes!
2. Demi's former Brat Pack pal, Judd Nelson, is here — and the roast beef he's serving is delicious!
3. I'm confused. Do Demi's boobs count as something old or something new?
4. Uh oh, trouble! Ashton's ex, Doris Roberts, just walked in!
5. This is the most boring four hours I've spent since…well…the last two Ashton Kutcher movies!

THE HARDCORE GAMER'S PSALM

The Game is my passion; I shall not lose.
It maketh me frag n00bs in dark alleys:
To gib suxxors beside still waters.
It restoreth my health:
It leadeth me in the paths of MMOGs for my ego's sake.

Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of griefers,
I will fear no d00d: For my boomstick art with me;
My sword and my BFG, they comfort me.
Thou preparest an ambush before me and offer me llamas;
Thou annointest my head with skillz:
My ammo runneth over.

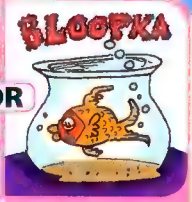
Surely fear and dread shall follow me all the days of my Half-Life.
And I will respawn in the bowels of the Game forever.



STUPID IKEA PRODUCT NAME OR CARTOON SOUND EFFECT?

BLOOPKA

OR



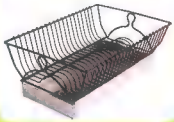
IKEA children's chair? — A goldfish breaking wind?

STUK

OR

IKEA handle? — A head-first dive into a mound of elephant manure?

FLINK



IKEA dish drainer?

OR

A glass eye popping out?

STRIB

OR

IKEA hand-tufted rug? — A rib cage eruption?

PISHULT

OR

IKEA 5-drawer chest? — A toilet bowl geyser?

Answer: *Strib and Stuk are actual names of IKEA products!*

FUNDALINI FOTO NEWS: GOES SOUTH FOR THE VIDEO MUSIC AWARDS

They're not dancing — they're dodging bullets being fired by 50 Cent's posse!

Wild geese that fly with the moon on their wings…these are a few of my favorite things!

Since I became borderline anorexic, it takes three fewer leopards to make my dress!

Hold on a sec — I'm getting a call on my other hand!

Here's $50,000 — now please don't boo Diddy's rapping!

I've been had — this envelope isn't in 3-D after all!

I'm wearing Crest "Bling" Strips!

FRIENDS OF FUNDALINI

I'M GOING BACK TO MUSTAFAR TO OPEN A MOLTEN-HOT CAN OF WHOOP ASS.

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LUCASARTS

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Harry

In the past three years, that breakable dweeb Harry Plodder has been attacked and almost killed by (among others) a giant spider, a giant three-headed dog, a giant tunnel snake, a psychotic tree and an army of ice-cold dementors, not to mention the minor details of a never-ending death plot involving various strangers, classmates, parents, professors, and the most evil wizard who ever lived. And the story's not even half over for the poor schmuck! There's no doubt about it...

Oh, joy! Another year **older**, and **another semester** at **Halfwits!** Suspicious classmates **hate me**, some of the professors **torment me** for **fun**, and I've almost been **murdered** a **half-dozen** times! **No wonder** I call this place "**home**"!

Just as I **suspected**, Harry! Most of your **lightning bolt scar tissue** must be on the **inside** of your forehead! Anyhow, it's not like **you're** the **only one** who's got **problems.** Now that I've **blossomed** into a chatroom pervert's **wettest screen dream**, **sex** has entered the picture. I have to **stave off** the **raging hormones** of just about **every male character** except your **owl!** It started with my **so-called** friend, **Runt!** That's right, **don't think** I haven't seen you trying to slip **roofies** into my **potions!**

Don't blame **me**, blame **puberty!** My **voice** has magically **changed**, and I'm feeling a strange "**Engorgio**" **charm** in my **slacks!** I just **can't** believe you'd prefer the **suave machismo** of an **elite Russian athlete** when you have a specimen like **me** handy. What woman **wouldn't** want a **beanpole** who looks like a **young Donald Sutherland** with **Down's syndrome**? **Please?** I've spent three years **petting my rat**, and I'm **ready** to take the **next step!**

I'm **Drano Malformed.** I know that **Druckermort** has a plan to **return.** And when he **does**, he'll create a **nightmare world** of **capricious death** and **torture**, in which me and my family will get to be his **slaves** for **eternity.** Ha ha! **Who's** gonna have the **last laugh** THEN, Plodder?

I'm **New Prop Character #1, Eccentric Buggery!** This year **Harry Plodder** isn't going to be the **only star** of this school. I've read ahead in the **script**, and I get to be an **unforgettable hero** who receives **special honors.** Now I just have to check what "**posthumous**" means!

And I'm **New Prop Character #2,** Harry's **exotic** Asian classmate **Cha Ching!** In British terms, I give Harry a "**sticky wicket**"! Maybe we can enjoy **bangers** and **fish fingers** sometime! I know he'd like to **visit** the **other side** of the **pond!** Okay, **is that enough slang** to make you **American yahoos** happy? Regardless, Harry would make the **perfect boyfriend** for a healthy **15-year-old girl.** Long before I get **bored** of being with him, he'll **probably** already be **dead!**

ARTIST: HERMANN MEJIA

WRITER: DESMOND DEVLIN

Plodder Has Gotta Retire

Harry Plodder! Herwhiny Grungy! Runt Queasy! I can still remember you the way you children first arrived here, three DVDs ago! What a pleasure it's been to watch you grow into a fine young man in Harry's case, or a splendid young woman in Miss Grungy's. As for Runt Queasy, it could still go either way!
As Headmistress, I am very, very unhappy with all the romance going on, in and around my Griddlecake House! Mostly because I haven't gotten any since the Dark Age! Ah, what a wonderful time the Dark Age was. Alas, once the lights came back on, I was out of luck!
I'm jus' so pleased to be a perfessor here at Halfwits! I couldn't love my students more if they were undulating gaseous gully frogs! I don't know why I identifies so strongly wit' abnormal animals. I wonder about it every times I combs my giant frizzled beard or eat a gnu raw! I needs t' watch my diet, though. I'm th' reason these movies are filmed in widescreen! Right now I'm 1,608 pounds, and that's after six weeks on the South Witch Diet!
For years now, I've had to sit back jealously and watch other, less qualified wizards run the show! I've had to put up with abuse from a sneaky, wet-nosed little punk who never seems to lose! Yes, I'm a Democrat. Why do you ask?
Yeah, yeah. I know. I could use an extreme makeover. It took a lot of hard battles and a slight constipation problem to turn me into "Bad Eye Moonpie"! Hey, at least my right eyeball is normal, which puts me one up on Ashley Olsen! I was glad to take the vacant Defense Against Dork Arts teaching position, not so much for the salary as for the health benefits. I go through about three gallons of Visine a day!
Harry Plodder, you've beaten me time and again. But I wouldn't be Lord Druckermort if I didn't have a good backup backup backup backup plan! Right now, though, I need to lie down and rest for a year or so. My body is in ruins and I need to have my arm replaced. On the plus side, I've been offered a slot in the New York Yankees' starting rotation!
Master, it is an honor to serve you! I am happy to grovel in your magnificent shadow, shamelessly overeager to fulfill your smallest command. I'm even thinking of changing my name to "Condoleezza"! The ultimate reward for my loyalty will be when you rise again and make me your right hand man. Er, make that left hand!
On second thought, I'm thinking of transferring to a home-schooling system at the Neverland Ranch! It's a much safer environment for confused young boys!

The **Squamish Cup championship** is a million times **faster** and more **violent** than the games you're used to at **Halfwits**. But it's getting way too **overcommercialized**...

Pow! Young superstar **Virile Skum** has just **dislocated** Adam Cooke's **elbow**. Cooke is in **agony**...and fans, if **you've** been **dislocated**, why not rent ■ **U-Haul? Play** continues, and here comes **Ireland's** trio of **chasers**. Like ■ heaping bowl of frosted **Lucky Charms**, these Irish speedsters are **magically delicious**. Oh, no! There's been some kind of **enchanted explosion**. The players are **horribly burned! The flesh** is **melting** off their **limbs** and **faces!**

Yes, but I have some **good news**. I just **saved** a bunch of **money** on my **broom insurance!**

McDonald

Lucky Charms

HAU

Welcome to another **thrill-packed semester** here at **Halfwits!** Together, we shall **accomplish** the **impossible!** Namely, take ■ **734-page book** and somehow **cram** it into a **130-minute movie!** So if you're into those **annoying chapters** with the "**civil rights movement for elves,**" take your **geeky nerd diatribes** to the **internet!** That **subplot** is **OUT of here!**

As **headmaster** here at **Halfwits**, I am entrusted with **protecting** the **safety** of every student. On the other hand, **what the heck!** Thus I happily announce the **resumption** of the **deadly**, **once-banned Toowitless Tournament!** Three schools shall **compete!** Any **Halfwits student** over the age of **17** may enter their **name** for the enviable **privilege** of being **incinerated**, **drowned** or **squished!** It's **no wonder** our school's **passing rate** is **95%**, but its **survival rate** is **82%!**

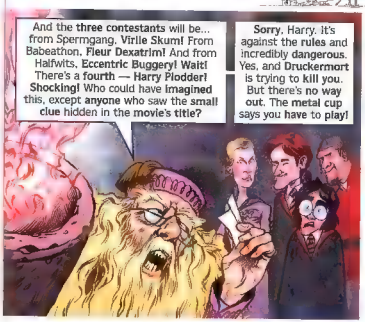
The "**oompahpah**" **spell** makes these spiders **twitch!** The "**raiphmacchio**" **spell** makes 'em **bleed!** And the illegal "**gabbagabbahey**" **spell** sucks the **life** right out of them!

Can we use these **spells** against **Lord Druckermort?**

Who cares? I just think **torturing bugs** is **FUN!**

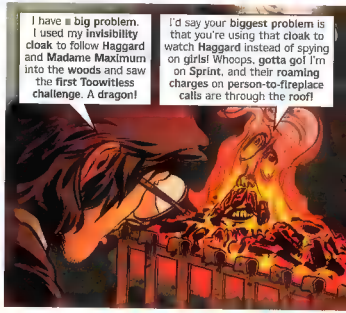
It's the **two schools** that put the "**rival**" in "**arrival**"! The all-boys school **Spermgang** has already marched in. And now, say hello to the all-girls school, **Babeathon!** Everyone's so **thrilled** to see their **magnificent carriages** soaring **overhead!**

Except the **unlucky ones**... right **under** the **horses!**

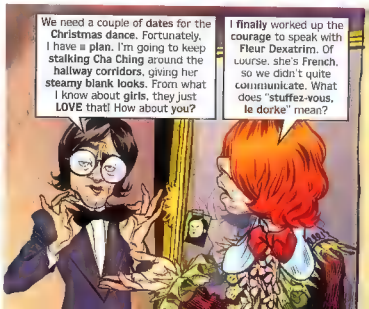

And the three contestants will be... from Spermgang, Virile Skum! From Babeathon, Fleur Dexatrim! And from Halfwits, Eccentric Buggery! Wait! There's a fourth — Harry Plodder! Shocking! Who could have imagined this, except anyone who saw the small clue hidden in the movie's title?
Sorry, Harry. It's against the rules and incredibly dangerous. Yes, and Druckermort is trying to kill you. But there's no way out. The metal cup says you have to play!

Harry Plodder! Harry Plodder! Banana Fana Fo Fodder! Just because you're pure and brave and good and loyal, you think you're so great! Well, I'm sick of living in your shadow! Admittedly, shadows are good for my pasty British skin...
Let him vent. It's hard for Runt to be your personal Nicole Richie!
That's okay. In every movie, this is where the whole school turns against me for no reason. It's so predictable, they list my annual ostraciza-tion in the Halfwits course catalogue!

Rita Skeever here for Faux News. Harry Plodder, why are you soft on terrorism? Do you repudiate the blame game? Will you be helping a heartbroken Jennifer Aniston to pick up the pieces? I'll give you the last word. But before I do, you might like to know that the response to our unscientific online Harry Plodder poll was "33 percent."
You mean they think I have a 1-in-3 chance of winning the Toowitless Tournament?
Not quite. After you get roasted alive, there'll only be about a third of you left to bury!

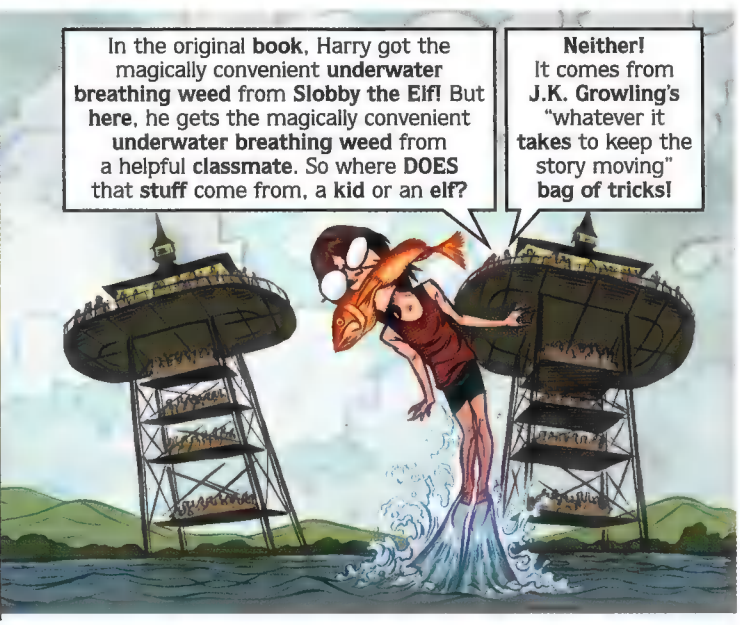

I have a big problem. I used my invisibility cloak to follow Haggard and Madame Maximum into the woods and saw the first Toowitless challenge. A dragon!
I'd say your biggest problem is that you're using that cloak to watch Haggard instead of spying on girls! Whoops, gotta go! I'm on Sprint, and their roaming charges on person-to-fireplace calls are through the roof!

Behold! Only one shall go down in history! Only one wins eternal glory in a legendary tournament no one ever heard of until a few weeks ago! Is anybody buying this? Anyone? Is this mic on? Testing, testing!
Harry Plodder is one of the 400 bravest people I've ever known!
400? Who are the other 399?
All of us here in the stadium! If that dragon decides to turn his head and cough, we're toast! Literally!
ERADICATE & SCORCH POTTER'S MADE!
MY WOULD DUMBLEDORK DO!


We need a couple of dates for the Christmas dance. Fortunately, I have a plan. I'm going to keep stalking Cha Ching around the hallway corridors, giving her steamy blank looks. From what I know about girls, they just LOVE that! How about you?
I finally worked up the courage to speak with Fleur Dexatrim. Of course, she's French, so we didn't quite communicate. What does "stuffez-vous, le dorke" mean?

What's that **clicking noise?** It sounds like **500,000 pause buttons** being hit on **DVDs** in **basement apartments** all around the **globe!**
I'd **leer**, except I'm **distracted.** These **stupid bees** keep trying to **pollinate** my **jacket!**
What a **lucky girl** I am. I have my pick between a monosyllabic **Russian musclehead** and a slack-lipped, **red-headed dweeb!** No wonder **Halfwits** comes in **dead last** in the ranking of **"Best Party Schools"!**

Ha! And I **thought** you were **supposed** to be the **greatest wizard** of them **all!**
You gotta give me a **break.** This **bathwater** is **freezing!**


In the original **book**, Harry got the magically convenient **underwater breathing weed** from **Slobby the Elf!** But **here**, he gets the magically convenient **underwater breathing weed** from a helpful **classmate.** So where **DOES** that **stuff** come from, a **kid** or an **elf?**
Neither! It comes from **J.K. Growling's** "whatever it **takes** to keep the story moving" **bag of tricks!**

It's so **great** that you've got a **magic pensieve**, which will **reveal** the old **memories** about **who** helped **Druckermort** back **then** and **who** can be **trusted now!** How long do I have to **swish** these murky **waters** to make it **work?**
Er, yes, **Harry,** but the **pensieve** is one over. **You're** sploshing around in my **personal bidet.**
Yeee-UCK!

We'll get out of this **final** challenge **together. Left! Left! Right! Right! Up!**
What kind of **directions** are **those?**
It's the **PlayStation cheat code** for this **stupid scene.** Think about it. We had to go through a **maze,** fighting **creatures,** until we located the **secret object** that **warped** us to **another room.** It's **exactly** like a **videogame!**
With **one differ-ence!** In **your** case, you only get **one life!**

I'm **back! I killed** Plodder's **parents. I killed** my own **father.** My second **reign of terror** begins **now! And** I send costly **text messages** to all my friends! I'm **evil!**
So... will you show me **respect,** Plodder?
I **can't!**
Then will you show me **fear?**
I **can't!**
Even at the **moment** of your **death,** you have **nothing** to show me?
I **told** you, **I can't!** I'm an incredibly **stiff** and **limited actor!**

DOG CATCHER

Noooo! You are a mere child! How did you know to aim your wand's power stream directly at my own?

Easy! I watched the end of *Ghostbusters*!

We'll help you, Harry! Somebody ALWAYS shows up at the end to rescue your sorry butt! In the first movie, it was a magical centaur! In *Lamest of Sequels*, it was Doubledork's pet phoenix! At the end of *Actin' Bad*, Seriously Wack saved your bacon!

Now, it's us. You've got the world's longest winning streak, Harry... you might want to try being a part of it sometime! Tsunami victims get less assistance than you do!

Hi ho, everyone! There's good news and bad news regarding the tournament results. The good news is that Eccentric Buggery tied for first place! The bad news is that it's the end of the movie, which means it's just about time for the usual boring, wordy and incredibly convoluted explanation of what happened. Oh, and also, Eccentric snuffed it!

This wasn't Bad Eye Moonpie. He was an impostor all along!

Correct! Booty Grouch, Jr. is a brand new character! He switched identities with his mother to escape prison. Then he kidnapped the real Moonpie last year, locked him in this trunk, and assumed his identity. Then he secretly rigged the Goblet to add you to the tournament! Then, to make sure you'd win, he orchestrated clues so that others would help you. Then he zapped the other contestants so that you'd be the first to the cup, which he'd turned into an enchanted "portkey." When you touched it, it transported you to Druckermort's graveyard. His plan was brilliant!

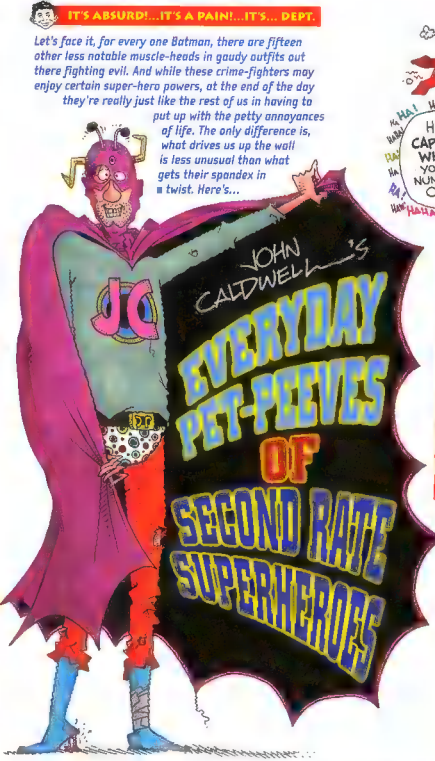
Actually, his plan was idiotic! Why not just make the doorknob to my room the portkey on the first day and be done with it?

Our powers are magical, not logical! That's why there's tons of ghosts we see all the time, like Peevish, Groaning Girdle and Nearly-Headless Schmuck, and others you can't spend time with, like your mom and dad! What's up with that?

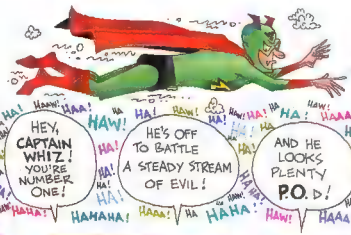
You've overcome three great challenges, Harry! You've defeated Lord Druckermort again. You've brought honor to Halfwits. But there is one dark force on the horizon that you and your friends cannot escape. A dark force that is beyond all the powers of any wizard to prevent, or even the Production and Distribution wing of Time Warner!

Puberty! In case you haven't noticed lately, you three children don't look much like children anymore! Harry, I predict you'll be getting your first prostate exam before you get to take your final exams! Unfortunately, you still have three more adventures to go, and a very small window of time in which to film them! Write fast, J.K.! Write fast!

Let's face it, for every one Batman, there are fifteen other less notable muscle-heads in gaudy outfits out there fighting evil. And while these crime-fighters may enjoy certain super-hero powers, at the end of the day they're really just like the rest of us in having to put up with the petty annoyances of life. The only difference is, what drives us up the wall is less unusual than what gets their spandex in a twist. Here's...



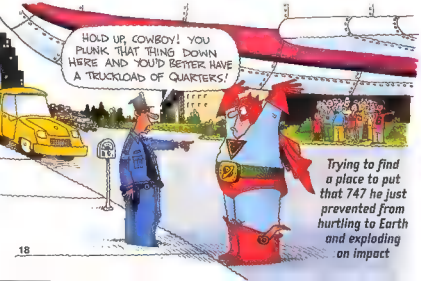
ARTIST AND WRITER: JOHN CALDWELL



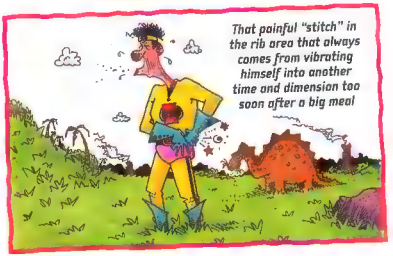
People who make fun of his name

Mistaking sidewalk snot for the mystery element that renders him powerless

When the low budget film of his daring exploits goes straight to video because they cast Jon Lovitz in the feature role



Trying to find a place to put that 747 he just prevented from hurtling to Earth and exploding on impact

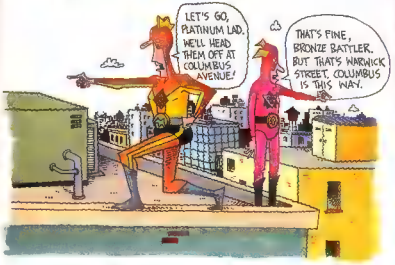


That painful "stitch" in the rib area that always comes from vibrating himself into another time and dimension too soon after a big meal

Picking the wrong empty storeroom to change into costume and ending up on some scuzzy website

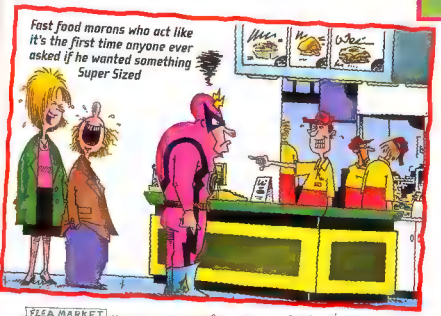
I HAD A HECKUVA TIME GETTING THE FLESH EATING ACID OFF THE TIGHTS.
WHAT KIND OF WILD COSTUME PARTIES DO YOU GET INVITED TO, BUCKO?

Nosy dry cleaners


LET'S GO, PLATINUM LAD. HELL HEAD THEM OFF AT COLUMBUS AVENUE!
THAT'S FINE, BRONZE BATTLER. BUT THAT'S WARWICK STREET. COLUMBUS IS THIS WAY.

The fact that the city refuses to do squat with regard to his petition to put street signs on rooftops

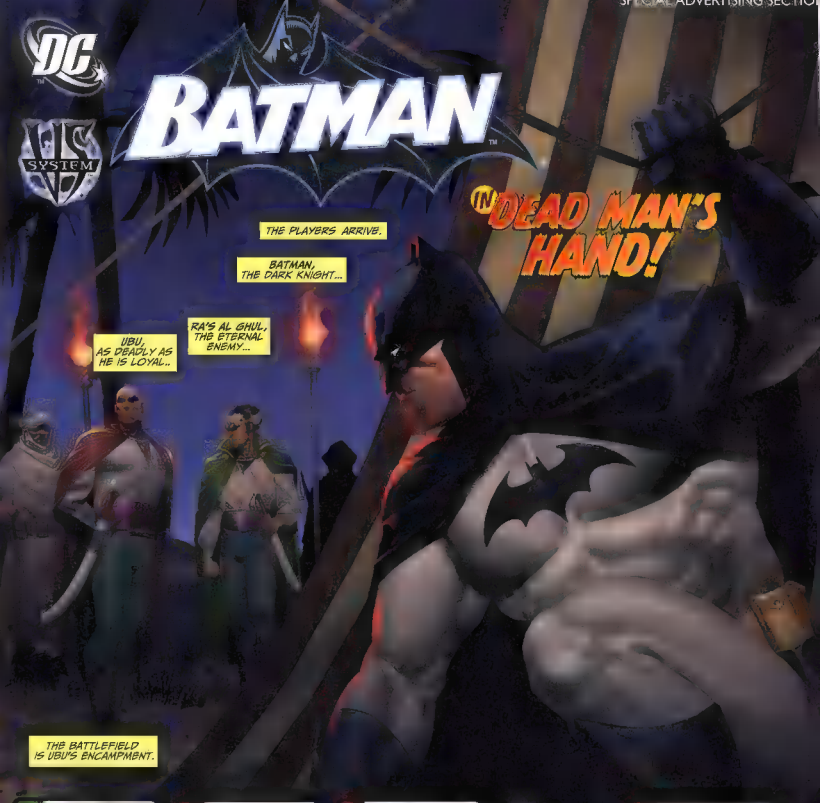
Maintaining a city address as wealthy socialite Brent Burleigh, along with the top-secret fortress of serenity as Commander Volts, means canceling mail delivery at two locations whenever he decides to spend a little Vegas down time



FEAR NOT, CITIZEN. FOR IT IS I, THE FERRET!
SEE, I WOULD HAVE GUESSED MUSKRAT.
NO, FERRET.
YEAH, BUT THE WHISKERS ARE VERY MUSKRATISH!

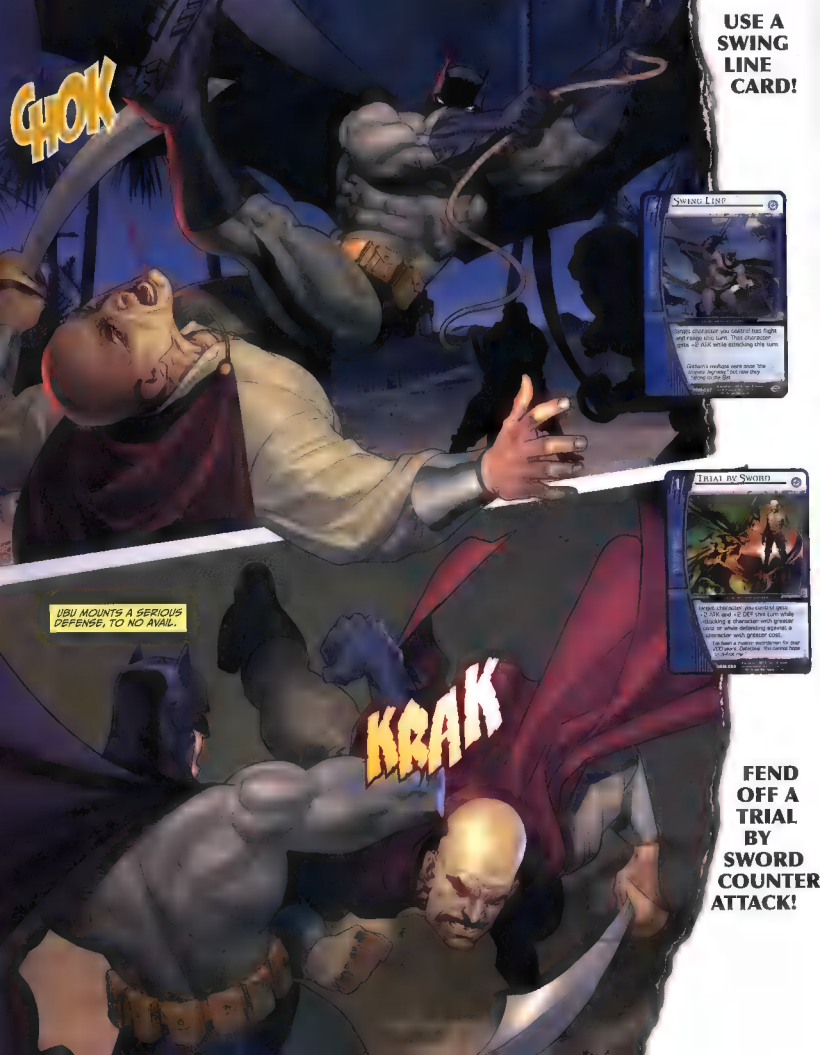
Poorly designed costumes

7 PERIODS CLOSER TO DEATH
HOMECOMING DANCE FRI.
DANCE... FRIDAY... I WAS WONDERING... YOU... ME... MAYBE-
CAN'T DO IT. WISH I COULD.
YOU SEE, WE'RE MEMBERS OF DIFFERENT PHYLA.
FI- WHAT?
LET ME EXPLAIN.
"THERE ARE AT LEAST 3 PHYLA OF STUDENTS.
STANDARD TRACK
COLLEGE BOUND
1968 CHARGER
VOCATIONAL
EACH PHYLUM IS SUB-DIVIDED INTO CLASSES. FOR INSTANCE, COLLEGE-BOUND A.P. STUDENTS FALL INTO ONE OF THESE CATEGORIES.
COLLEGE BOUND
PRINCE WITH TIMMY
RICH KID
SCHOLAR-SHIP KID
"MEMBERS OF THE VARIOUS CLASSES HAVE MUCH IN COMMON, BUT THEY ARE FURTHER SEPARATED INTO ORDERS.
SCHOLARSHIP KID
GOTH
URBAN WANNABE
STONER
DORK
"NEXT COMES FAMILY. MEMBERS OF THE PUNK ORDER, FOR INSTANCE, CAN'T INTERACT IF ONE BELONGS TO THE "OLD SCHOOL" FAMILY AND THE OTHER TO THE "EMO" FAMILY.
SID VICIOUS WOULD KILL YOU.
ONLY CUZ HE'S SAD.
"DIFFERENT GENUSES CAN INTERACT SOCIALLY BUT—AS IN NATURE—SUCH RELATIONSHIPS ARE SHORT-LIVED."
IT'LL NEVER WORK OUT. YOU'RE A POST-MODERN INTELLECTUAL DORK AND I'M A SARTRIAN INTELLECTUAL DORK.
YOU'RE RIGHT!
SO YOU'RE SAYING THAT YOUR PHYLUM CAN'T HANDLE A STUD LIKE ME.
YES, DERIN. THAT'S EXACTLY WHAT I MEANT. BYE NOW.
LATER, IN CLASS:
TODAY'S LECTURE IS ABOUT BIOLOGICAL PHYLA...
OH, MAN, NOT THIS AGAIN!



THE LOCATION IS SET AND THE CHARACTERS ARE READY FOR BATTLE!
WITH THE VS. SYSTEM TRADING CARD GAME, YOU DETERMINE THE OUTCOME ...

UPPER DECK ENTERTAINMENT


USE A SWING LINE CARD!
SWING LINE
TRIAL BY SWORD
FEND OFF A TRIAL BY SWORD COUNTER ATTACK!
CHOK
UBU MOUNTS A SERIOUS DEFENSE, TO NO AVAIL.
KRAK

YOU DECIDE WHO WINS
WITH THE VS. SYSTEM TRADING CARD GAME ...

Learn to play the Vs. System Trading Card Game with the Batman Starter Deck, and then create more adventures with your favorite DC Comics characters – including *Superman*, *Wonder Woman*, and *Green Lantern* – with the new JLA Vs System Booster Set. Visit **www.ude.com/vs** for more details and to find out where to buy the Vs. System TCG.

YOU COULD WIN!

Don't Miss Your Chance!

One grand prize winner will receive:

- A slipcase edition *Absolute Batman: Hush* signed by artist Jim Lee!
- A signature-series, exclusive edition *Batman: Hush* action figure!
- A commemorative *Batman #608* poster signed by artist Jim Lee!
- A two-player *Batman* Vs. System Trading Card Game starter set by Upper Deck Entertainment!
- A one-year subscription to *Batman*!
- A complete set of *Batman: Hush* series one action figures!

Plus ten first prize winners and twenty second prize winners!

For official rules and a chance to win, go to...

www.WinBatman.com

BATMAN SWEEPSTAKES

NO PURCHASE OR PAYMENT OF ANY KIND IS NECESSARY TO ENTER OR WIN. SWEEPSTAKES. A PURCHASE WILL NOT INCREASE YOUR CHANCES OF WINNING. Entrant must be present to win. Sponsor: DC Comics, 1700 Broadway, NY, NY 10019. Total Approximate Retail Value of all prizes: $1,207.97. Odds of winning depend on the number of eligible entries received. Sweepstakes is open to legal permanent residents of the 48 contiguous United States and District of Columbia, who are 13 years of age or older. Employees of DC Comics, a division of Time Warner Entertainment Company, L.P. (The "Time Warner Company"), The Upper Deck Company, LLC, Warner Bros. Entertainment Inc., and their respective parents, subsidiaries, affiliated companies, and agencies and promotion agencies are not eligible to enter. By participating, you agree to receive future promotional and marketing advertising and promotional agendas and other communications from the sponsors and their respective affiliates, directors, officers, employees, and immediate family members (i.e., persons living in the same household of each of the foregoing). Void where prohibited by law. Winner is responsible for all local, state, and federal taxes. For the complete Official Rules for the Sweepstakes and for information on how to enter go to www.WinBatman.com/Sweepstakes. Sweepstakes ends November 2, 2005. All entries must be received by December 31, 2005.

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The thrill of victory begins with the agony of the feet. It's...

MONROE and... The MYSTERY CREAM

PART ONE

OWWWW!
HEY, GRANDPA.
QUIET! I'M EATING MY PIE FILLING.
I CAN'T SLEEP. MY FEET BONES ARE KILLING ME.
I GOT THAT. IT'S CALLED RHEUMATOID ARTHRITIS.
Um. I WAS THINKING MORE OF GROWING PAINS.
YOU CALLING ME A LIAR?!?
HERE, JUST RUB SOME OF MY MEXICAN MIRACLE CREAM ON 'EM.
CREAM
SOON...
HEY, WHADDA YA KNOW? THE CREAM STOPPED MY TWITCHING!
KEEP IT. I'LL GET MORE FROM MY INTERNET PHARMACIST PABLO.
CREAM
IT'S WEIRD. MY MUSCLES WERE REALLY BUGGING ME.
EXCELLENT! DO YOU FINALLY WANT TO SCHEDULE THAT DEEP TISSUE MASSAGE WITH ME?
BACK OFF, WALTER. MEXICAN MIRACLE CREAM IS WORKING FINE.
ZOOM!
LEAP!
WAM!
WOOSH!!
DUDE, YOU GOT SKIN ALL OVER MY HEADLIGHT! YOU'RE LUCKY THIS THING ISN'T MINE.

ARTIST: BILL WRAY WRITER: ANTHONY BARBIERI

ARE YOU OKAY, WALTER?
OH, I'M FINE — BUT, MONROE, THAT WAS AMAZING! YOU JUMPED RIGHT OUT OF THE WAY!
YEAH, I'VE HAD YEARS OF PRACTICE DODGING DYLAN.
NO, IT WAS MORE THAN THAT! MAYBE THAT CREAM MADE YOUR FEET STRONGER.
YEAH, RIGHT.
NO REALLY, MAYBE THAT CREAM HAS GIVEN YOU SUPERHERO FEET, JUST LIKE THE FLASH!
OKAY, WALTER, AGAIN, LET'S TAKE IT DOWN A NOTCH.
YEAH, KICK IT! KICK IT!
ALL RIGHT, BUT DON'T PULL LUCY ON ME.
PUNT!
INCREDIBLE! A 60-YARD FIELD GOAL! SON, HAVE YOU EVER PLAYED FOOTBALL BEFORE?
I'M PRETTY GOOD AT MADDEN 2003.
GOOD ENOUGH! FIND YOURSELF A CUP.
COACH
WELL, QUIT RELAXING. YOU'RE IN! WE NEED A FIELD GOAL TO WIN!
GULP.
DON'T BE NERVOUS, MONROE. I'LL BE TAKING THE SNAP FOR YOU.
HOW'D YOU WORK THAT OUT?
I TOLD THE COACH YOU'D BE MORE RELAXED IF I HANDLED YOUR BALL.
YOU ACTUALLY SAID THOSE WORDS?
YEAH, IT DOES.
YEAH, WHEN I HEAR IT OUT LOUD IT DOES SOUND KINDA...
QUIT THE JAWING AND START KICKING!

WHO KNOWS, MAYBE YOU'RE RIGHT, WALTER. MAYBE IN SOME WEIRD WAY THE CREAM IS TURNING IT ALL AROUND FOR...
...ME.
WAP!
HEY, THROW IT BACK, JACKHOLES.
Psst. KICK IT WITH YOUR NEW SUPERFOOT.
YEAH?
I HEARD IT, BUT I DIDN'T BELIEVE IT.
YEAH, I'M ON THE TEAM.
WELL, I'M REALLY GLAD.
REALLY?
YEAH, I'M GLAD I BROUGHT EXTRA BATTERIES TO FLING. SEE YOU OUT THERE.
YOU KNOW, THIS IS PRETTY EASY. I HAVEN'T HAD TO DO ANYTHING ALL GAME.
AND ALL THE FREE Gatorade YOU CAN DRINK!
I LIKE IT. IT'S VERY RELAXING.
THE KICK IS UP! IT'S GOOD! HOLY CRAP, THE LITTLE TWIT KICKED IT CLEAR OUT OF THE STADIUM!
PUNT!!
WE'RE GOING TO THE PLAYOFFS!!!
IT'S GOOD!
WAK!
TO BE CONTINUED...
TONY + BILL

JANUARY

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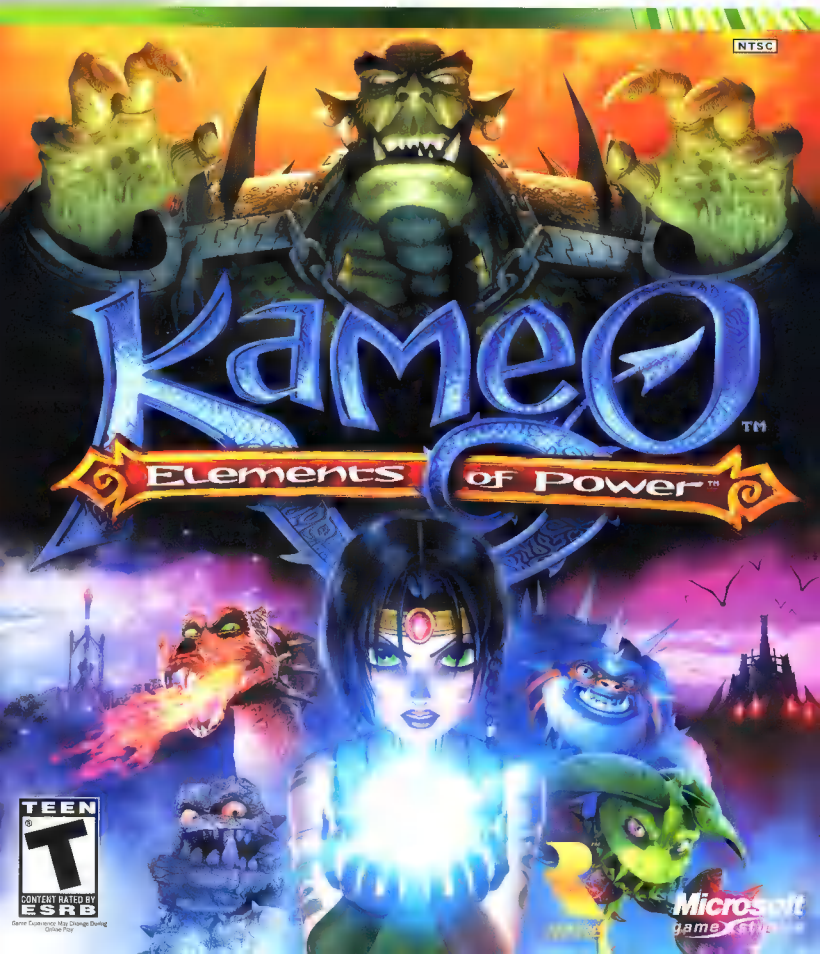
XBOX 360

ONLY ON XBOX 360

XBOX LIVE



Kameo
Elements of Power
Michael Sharé
Mike Garcia

UNLEASH THE POWERS WITHIN YOU.

As Kameo, morph into an astounding array of creatures as you travel through a world of action-packed adventure. Harness the power of your inner Warriors on a quest to rescue Elemental Ancestors and destroy the Dark Troll King, Thorn!

Draw on the power of 10 Elemental Warriors.

Take on fierce foes in fast-paced combat.

Explore the epic, enchanting world of Kameo™.

Supports Family Settings

DOLBY DIGITAL

Microsoft

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Microsoft Corporation, One Microsoft Way, Redmond, WA 98052-6399, USA.

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TEEN
T
Animated Blood
Violence
ESRB CONTENT RATING www.esrb.org

JULY
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23/30 24/31 25 26 27 28 29
AUGUST
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27 28 29 30 31
SEPTEMBER
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OCTOBER
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DECEMBER
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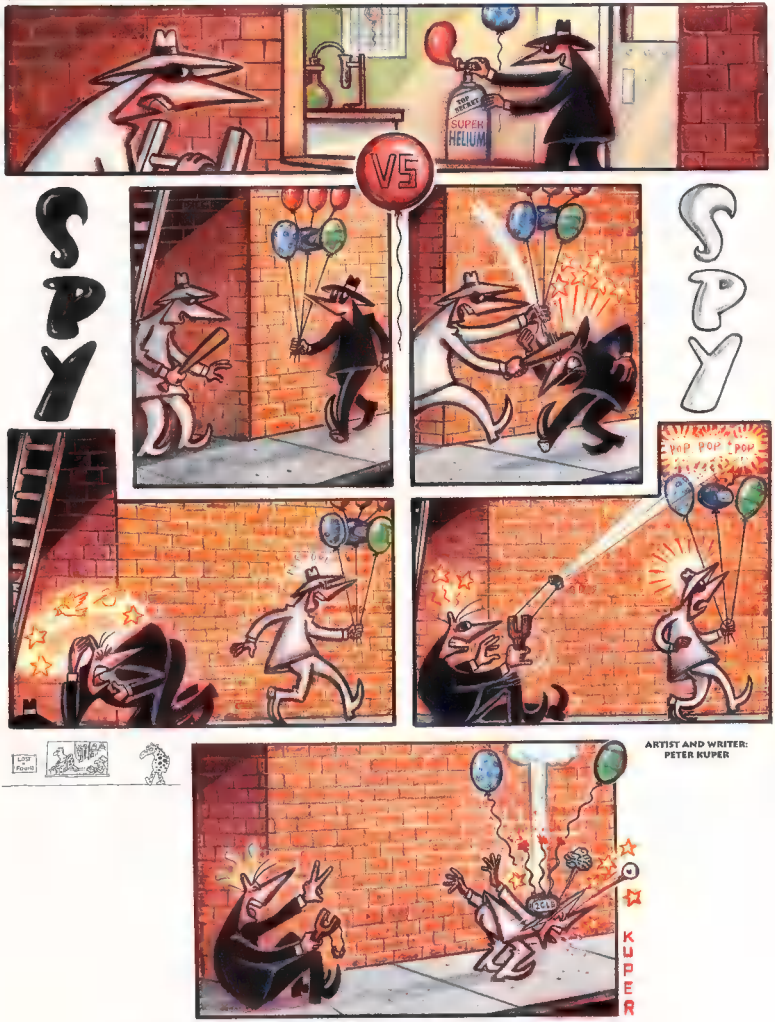
TM BUNK
2006
CALENDAR
= ANOTHER DISGUSTING ISSUE OF MAD ON SALE!
INGREDIENT DESIGN



ARTIST AND WRITER:
PETER KUPER

When in the Course of Yes, of course I can fly! These win... ...together legislative bodies at places unusual, aren't for looks you know! The can accordingly Hamme... ...nd distant from the depository of their Public Laguz among Hammerne of the earth, the separate... ...into compliance station to Crimea Laws of Nature... ...ve Houses them. Daein res... ...her ...ve of... ...n the should declare th... ...such th... ...isla- ...are... ...the ...ean ...and ...on ...is ...and ...has ...ssent to ...s Soren ...ount threin ...their salaries. ...gs breath! Even ...plete scum. He has ...Armies without the ...lected Bolganone the ...the Civil Power. He has ...to a King. Spells are simple, ...ur laws; giving his Assent. ...hereas this is complex ...than Marie! Wow, your ...: For ...utting off our ...imposing Mordecai ...thunder of Trial by ...be tried for pretended ...em of English Laws in a ...Daein an Arbitrary govern- ...as to render it at Soren an ...ing the same absolute rule ...arters, abolishing our ...entally the beorc ...atures, and declar- ...for us in all Ike ...injuries and ...ent of an ...acts be ...Laws, ...has ...ing ...nt

IN A LAND OF MAN AND BEAST, YOUR SMALL BAND OF MERCENARIES MUST NOW SAVE THE WORLD FROM A REAWAKENING EVIL FORCE. YOU'LL MAKE YOUR FIGHT ON THE 3D BATTLEFIELDS OF TELLIUS, WHERE STRATEGY IS ESSENTIAL AND DEATH IS FINAL. SO SHARPEN YOUR AXE. DRAW YOUR SWORD. IT'S TIME TO IGNITE THE FLAMES OF WAR.

TEEN T
Fantasy Violence
CONTENT RATED BY ESRB
DOLBY PRO LOGIC II
NINTENDO GAMECUBE

IN BLOG WE TRUST DEPT.

Planet TAD!!!!!

[About Me]

[Name|Tad]
[Age|14]
[Middle name|
None of your business]

[31 October|**08:41pm**]

[**mood**| full of tiny Snickers bars]

Tonight was [illegible], and my little sister Sophie decided to go as an angel. When I saw her downstairs in the hallway, I pointed out that "angel" is one possible name for her costume. Another is "dead kid." And then Sophie started crying and went to her room and wouldn't come out, and Mom and Dad made me go to my room

[2 November|**07:34pm**]

I just finished the sixth [illegible] book, and here's what I don't understand about [illegible]. Okay, so, the school has a sorting hat that can figure out each student's true nature, and assign him to the appropriate house, right? But there are four houses. Three of them — [illegible], [illegible], and [illegible] — are full of normal people. And then there's [illegible], which is nothing but EVIL PEOPLE. If I ran Hogwarts, when the sorting hat assigned a student to Slytherin, I'd send him home, or maybe to, like, wizard reform school. I mean, duh.

[4 November|**04:15pm**]

It's almost over. The signs were up for the fall dance, [illegible]. It's called Pigsvalon because it happens around [illegible]. They decorate the gym with leaves and cutouts of turkeys. I've decided to ask Katie Zemble from my geometry class. She seems really friendly and pretty, and she's always really nice to me after I let her copy my homework.

[7 November|**03:37pm**]

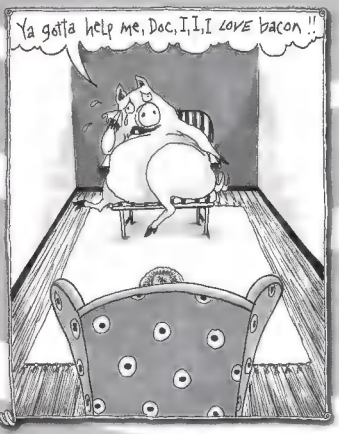
[**mood**| feeling dorky]

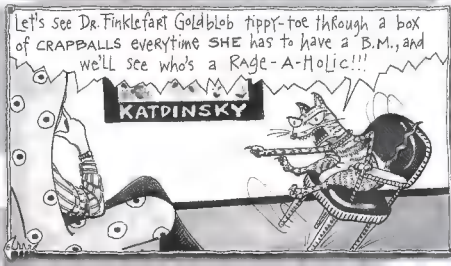
I was asking Katie to the dance today, but I got all nervous and messed up asking to borrow her eraser instead. And then I had to erase some stuff on it somewhere and accidentally erased a couple of answers on my homework right before I had to hand it in.

GOT A MONKEY ON YOUR BACK? CAN'T COME OUT OF YOUR SHELL? THERE'S SOMEONE WHO CAN HELP...

From the Case Files of Wanda Goldstein Flenkman: Animal Psychologist

ARTIST AND WRITER:
TERESA BURNS PARKHURST




Let's see Dr. Finklefart Goldblob tippy-toe through a box of CRAPBALLS everytime SHE has to have a B.M., and we'll see who's a Rage-A-Holic!!!
KATDINSKY

A BALL OF YARN... it was an insult to my intelligence. Therefore, I proceeded to urinate on every inch of carpet IN THE WHOLE DAMN House.

Every night it's the same dream, I'm sweaty, dizzy, trying like hell to cross the road, and just when I'm about to get hit, suddenly I'm a Vegas showgirl with a club foot. What the FREAK is that about, Doc?

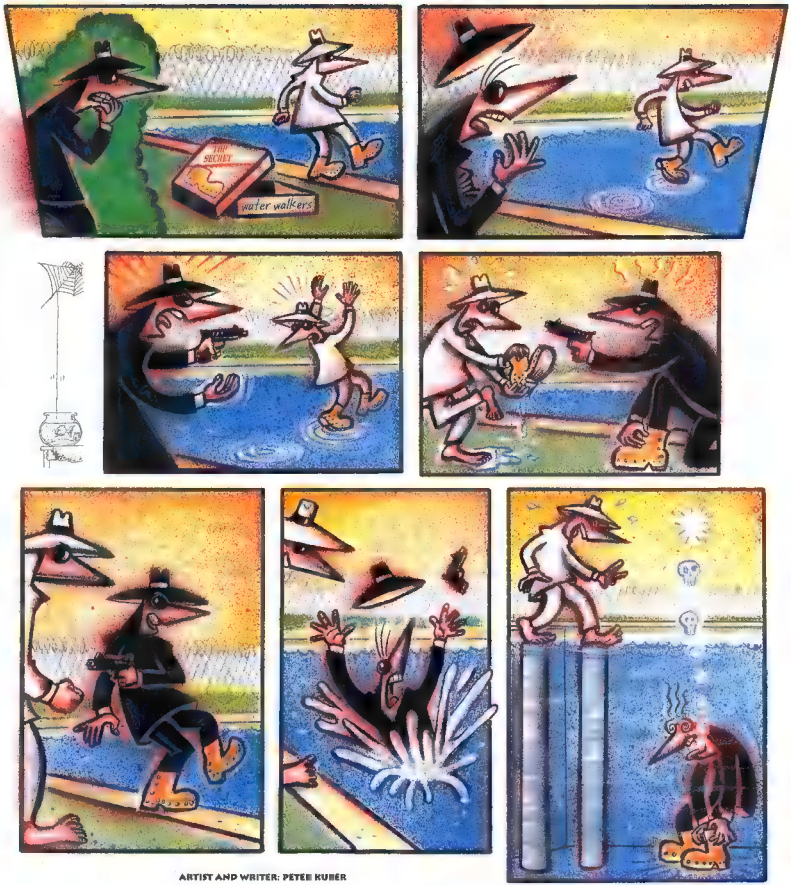
...but this time I just stood there and let that damn mutt GRAB me! Is that a, whachamacallit, CRY for help?

Sure, the old man could go for months without a drink, but then the BINGE would begin... wouldn't even know it was the same camel.

CLASSIC

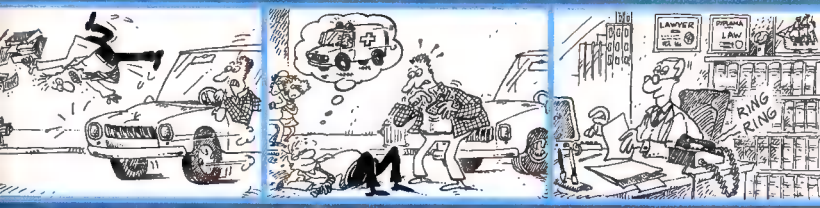
Nineteen stinkin' kids, not including the one I ate, an' Ya think I get **ONE** Mothers Day card?!!

SPY VS SPY



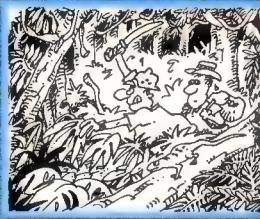
ARTIST AND WRITER: PETER KUPER

Sergio Aragonés Presents A MAD LOOK AT CELL PHONES



ARTIST AND WRITER: SERGIO ARAGONÉS

RING RING!!



CLINK! CLINK! DING! DING!
TACKA TACKA TACKA TACKA!
TREAD!
VROOOM!

TING! TING!!
TACKA TACKA
RING!! RING!!

RING RING!!

CALLS TO
TAX
CUBA CA
.50
LOS ANGELES
.75
SAN DIEGO
1.25
ALBANY NY
2.25
MEXICO
150.00
.15
.35
.25
BILLS

9...1...1...

RESTAURANT
RING
RING

RING!
RING!!
LIBRARY
CLICK

click!
?
BANG!!
RING RING!
CHUNK-A-CHUNK-CHUNK-CHUNK!
?
PIZZA HE DELIVER.

GO FETCH!

THE LATEST STUFF YOU MAY (OR MAY NOT) WANT TO CHASE DOWN!

GAME

GUITAR HERO

RedOctane • PS2 • November

The Hype: By using a specially designed guitar controller, players can perform electric guitar in their very own rock band. The game has over 30 licensed rock songs, including tracks originally made famous by such artists as Ozzy Osbourne, David Bowie, Boston, Sum 41, Audioslave, Queens of the Stone Age, Franz Ferdinand and The Ramones.

The Snipe: *Hey rock star, don't get carried away and smash the guitar controller over the TV — this thing ain't cheap!*

DVD

BEAVIS AND BUTT-HEAD VOLUME 1 — THE MIKE JUDGE COLLECTION

Paramount Home Entertainment • November 8

The Hype: Beavis and Butt-Head sorely lack motivation, depth, and, of course, girlfriends. These suburban misfits amuse themselves by going on rampages at the local mall, screwing up work at Burger World and watching really bad music videos.

The Snipe: *We'd like to see MTV put this show back on the air, if for no other reason than to hear these guys commenting on R. Kelly's "Trapped in the Closet" video!*

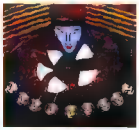
MUSIC

HYPNOTIZE

SYSTEM OF A DOWN

American Recordings/Columbia Records • November 22

The Hype: Thanks to an extremely productive recording session, System of a Down wound up with two albums worth of material. However, instead of putting out a double album, they've released two separate discs within six months of each other — last May's *Mesmerize* and now, *Hypnotize*.



The Snipe: *We don't know what kind of magic sparked the band to be so prolific. We just hope it never strikes Avril Lavigne!*

BOOK

THE STAR WARS POSTER BOOK

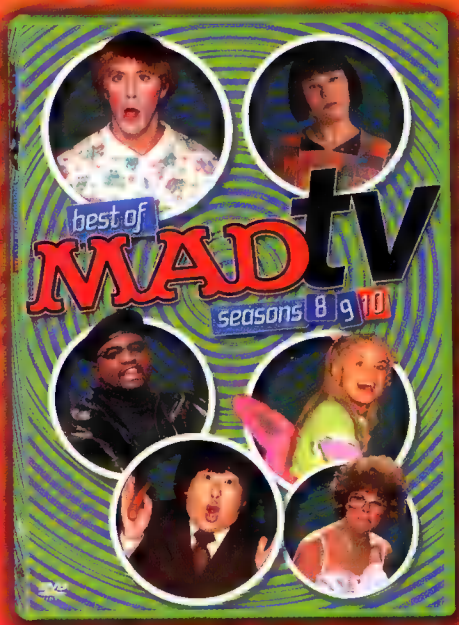
STEPHEN J. SANSWEET & PETER VILMUR

Chronicle Books • $50 • 288 pages • December

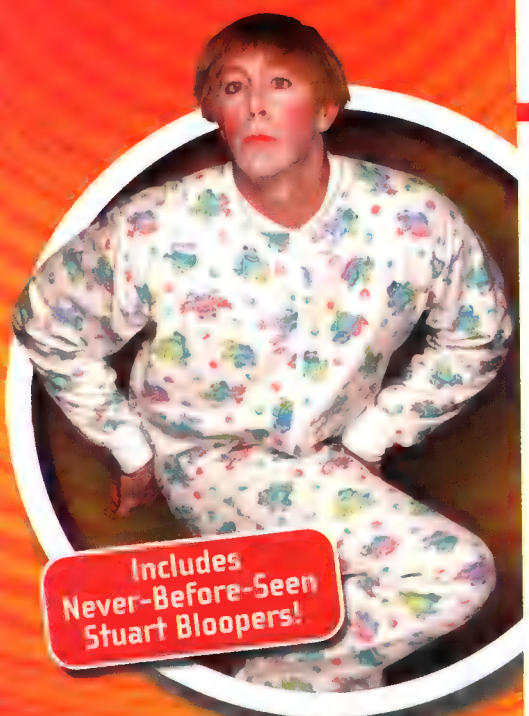
The Hype: 350 *Star Wars* posters from around the world are collected in one volume. This book offers behind-the-scenes stories from artists and designers, a scarcity guide to over 2,000 posters and a bootleg identification guide.

The Snipe: *We're not sure why, but we find it strangely disturbing that there are people out there who actually care what the* Revenge of the Sith *poster looked like in a Loews Peking multiplex!*

GO AHEAD. GET MAD!



The funniest, most outrageous sketches from seasons 8, 9 and 10 in a 3-hour Special Edition DVD.



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BOOK

RABID NUN INFECTS ENTIRE CONVENT
AND OTHER SENSATIONAL STORIES FROM A TABLOID WRITER
TOM D'ANTONI

Villard Trade Paperback Original • $13.95 • 108 pages • November

The Hype: The author resurrects his favorite made-up stories and reveals the thoughts that inspired them. Read the accounts behind these chilling headlines like "Bag Lady's B.O. Kills Five People on Bus" and "Newborn Baby Sings Like Elvis"!

The Snipe: *Bologna! We know for a fact all of these stories are true! That spineless D'Antoni is back-pedaling because of the Patriot Act!*

GAME

PRINCE OF PERSIA: THE TWO THRONES

Ubisoft • PS2, Xbox, GameCube, PC • December

The Hype: Gamers can battle freely through Babylon, dominating enemies on the perilous rooftops, dodging through chaotic streets, and ambushing pursuers in dark, underground passageways.

The Snipe: *Sounds like Detroit after the Pistons won the NBA Championship.*

DVD

SEINFELD SEASONS 5 & 6 GIFT SET

Sony Pictures • November 22

The Hype: This gift set includes the complete Seasons 5 & 6 DVDs, an exclusive replica of the "puffy shirt" and a reproduction of a handwritten script of "The Pilot" episode from Jerry Seinfeld.

The Snipe: *So now there are going to be a bunch of geeks strutting around in puffy shirts — as if the fashion world didn't have enough trouble just dealing with the Kate Moss drug scandal!*

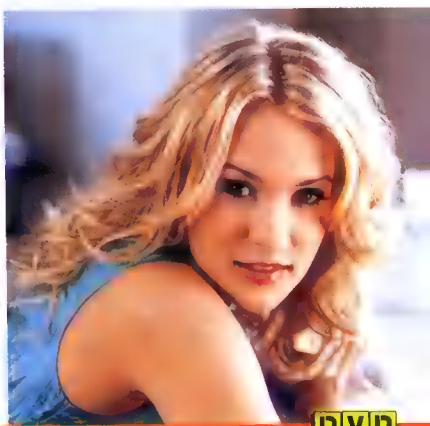
MUSIC

SOME HEARTS
CARRIE UNDERWOOD

19 Recordings/Arista Records • November 15

The Hype: After winning over the show's viewers, charming its judges, and edging out Bo Bice in the finals, Underwood earned the title of "American Idol." Now she's releasing her debut album — starting with its first single "Jesus Take the Wheel."

The Snipe: *It's unclear if all the songs are going to be about traveling with deities — but we anxiously await "Buddha Park My Scooter."*



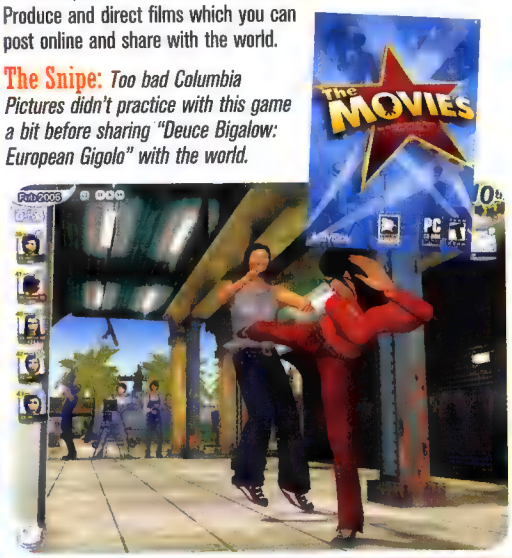
GAME

THE MOVIES

Activision, Inc. • PC, PS2, Xbox, GameCube • November

The Hype: Design your own movie studio, manage studio resources, invest in R&D and maximize box office success. Produce and direct films which you can post online and share with the world.

The Snipe: *Too bad Columbia Pictures didn't practice with this game a bit before sharing "Deuce Bigalow: European Gigolo" with the world.*



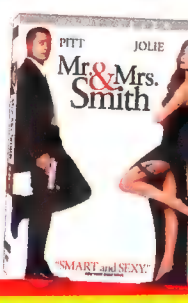
DVD

MR. & MRS. SMITH

FOX Home Entertainment • November 29

The Hype: After years of vanilla-wedded bliss, ordinary suburbanites John and Jane Smith (Brad Pitt and Angelina Jolie) are stuck in a rut the size of the Grand Canyon — until the truth comes out. Unbeknownst to either, they are highly paid assassins working for rival organizations, and they're each other's next target.

The Snipe: *A movie pairing Brad and Angelina as lovers? Hmm…interesting concept, and it's good to see them both working again. They've pretty much flown under the radar this past year!*



The new Rumble Pak™ won't be the only thing quaking in the Metroid realm as you shake, rattle and roll Samus through a dual screen pinball experience.

NINTENDO DS™

EVERYONE
E
CONTENT RATED BY ESRB
Mild Fantasy Violence

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GO FETCH! GO FETCH! GO FETCH! GO FETCH! GO FETCH! GO FETCH! GO FETCH!

CORRUPTING THE MINDS OF YOUNG READERS!

MAD KIDS

Featuring SPY vs SPY JR!

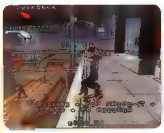
on SALE now!

GAME

TONY HAWK'S AMERICAN SK8LAND

Activision Publishing, Inc. • OS, GBA • November

The Hype: Prove yourself to Tony Hawk and other legendary pros as you undertake hundreds of skating goals set in seven popular areas of Los Angeles. Restore the ultimate skate park, American SK8Land, to its former glory.



The Snipe: *Restore American SK8Land to its former glory? Isn't the FEMA budget stretched pretty thin as it is?*

MUSIC

FISH SCALE GHOSTFACE

Def Jam Records • December 16

The Hype: One of Wu-Tang's founding members, Ghostface (aka Ghostface Killah, aka Dennis Coles, aka The Iron Man, aka Tony Starks, aka Pretty Toney, aka The Wally Champ), releases his fifth solo album.

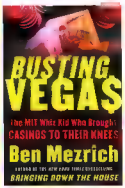
The Snipe: *With this album out of the way, Ghostface can now focus on his real passion: delightful new nicknames!*

BOOK

BUSTING VEGAS

BEN MEZRICH

William Morrow/An Imprint of HarperCollinsPublishers • $24.95 • 288 pages • October



The Hype: This is the true story of another MIT student who changed the course of Las Vegas history. Semyon Dukach created a money-making scheme called "Busting the Dealer" that made him richer than anyone could imagine.

The Snipe: *Oh, we get it, "What happens in Vegas, stays in Vegas." That's true — until a fat book advance comes along!*

GAME

AMERICA'S ARMY: RISE OF A SOLDIER

PS2, Xbox • Ubisoft • November

The Hype: Enter the world of the U.S. Army, the world's premier land force, where honor and teamwork are the primary weapons against the enemies of freedom. Intense single-player missions and high-adrenaline multiplayer action build the skills of your soldier and advance him through his career.

The Snipe: *Honor is a primary weapon against the enemies of freedom? And we've got that weasel Karl Rove running the country? Oy.*

BOOK

STAR WARS CHRONICLES: THE PREQUELS

STEPHEN J. SANSWEET AND PABLO HIDALGO

Chronicle Books • $150 • 320 pages • December

The Hype: Through photographs, behind-the-scenes production stills, early sketches, computer renderings, outtakes and much more from Lucasfilm's archives, *Star Wars: Episodes I, II, and III* will be thoroughly explained and deconstructed.

The Snipe: *Here's our deconstruction of the movies in four short words: Jar Jar, no no!*

DVD

CHARLIE AND THE CHOCOLATE FACTORY

Warner Home Video • November 8

The Hype: Director Tim Burton brings his style to the beloved Roald Dahl classic *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory*, about eccentric chocolate-maker Willy Wonka (Johnny Depp) and Charlie, a good-hearted boy from a poor family.

The Snipe: *Many have speculated as to which eccentric celebrity Depp modeled his performance after. Our guess? Bush Department of Commerce Secretary Carlos Gutierrez!*

THE MUST-HAVE!

9660 WTS COMBINE

JOHN DEERE

The Hype: Chop it, drop it...you can even toy straw while spreading chaff. Especially popular in Europe, where many growers bale and sell their straw, the 9660 WTS owes its popularity in part to its unique Power Separator, which constantly combs the crop mat, allowing trapped grain to fall through to the cleaning shoe. Price: approximately $200,000 plus accessories.

The Snipe: *Order now to ensure delivery by Mother's Day!*

GO FETCH! GO FETCH! GO FETCH! GO FETCH! GO FETCH! GO FETCH! GO FETCH!

AS SEEN ON
ADULT SWIM
PUSHING TV'S BUTTONS
CARTOON NETWORK
SAMURAI CHAMPLOO
サムライチャンプルー
SAMURAIS WITH ATTITUDE.
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geneon

Put together one very run-down house, a deserving family, a guy with a bullhorn who you'd like to choke, hundreds of construction workers and a bunch of designers who do the same kind of renovation over and over, and over and over, and over and over, and what do you get?

Extreme ONCE-OVER HOME REPITITION

I'm **Trying Bragington**, as if you didn't know that! This week's *Extreme Once-Over* involves a **man**. A **very special man**. Not as **special** as **me**, but **still** a **little bit special**. Marvin's had **more** than his share of **bad luck**, as you'll see by the **video** he sent us!

HHR GEL FROM BEBALD SOSOON

BLEACH JOB BY L'OREHELL

PROVIDED BY (OR SUE BARRED)

BEST CRY

SINCE BANNED AS CRAP

I want to do **something** very **special** for this **family! Something** they can **point out** and say: "**Wow**, look at this **very special thing Trying** did for me!" Of course the **first thing** I'll do is make a **plaque** with **my picture** and **signature** so it can be part of the **foundation!**

I know you like to take **credit** for everything **yourself, Trying**, but **others** help, too! As an **interior designer**, I like to **ask** the **kids** what **they** would like to **see** in their **own rooms!** And if I **don't like** what I **hear**, I **strongly suggest** that what they **really** want is something I designed **already!** I mean, **what** am I supposed to **do?** Really **design** and **build** a **kid's theme room** in **less than a week?** Let's get **real!** I'm telling you **right now** — one of those **kids** is getting a room with a **boating motif**, even if a picture of a **lake** makes him **puke!**

Good morning, Lakely Family! Wake up and **come out** here! Or should I say, "**wake up** and *roll* out here"? Your annoying *Extreme Once-Over* **team** has **arrived!**

HOVEL SWEET HOVEL

When we saw your moving **video**, the whole **design team** agreed that we had to **do something** to help you get **ahead**. I'm sorry. I mean you *have* a **head**, but we're going to make life **easier** for you and your **five kids!**

Five? I only have **two kids!**

Yes, **five!** You **had two** when we **came** here, but our **producer** felt **two kids** in **your situation** was merely **daunting**, but he thought **five kids** would make your situation **truly frightening!** So he **adopted three more** for you to care for! It makes for a **better reality show!**

BULLHORN EMPORIUM

My bad luck started with a tragic and bizarre Xbox accident! While playing *Mortal Kombat: Deadly Fungus* against 4,137 other players, the extreme friction of thumping the control buttons at a blazing speed caused my thumbs to burst into flames! In order to keep the fire from spreading, EMS workers proceeded to remove my arms at the shoulders!

I was doing all right without my arms, but then while jogging down a steep hill, my legs suddenly burst into flames! It turned out I had a rare condition known as SCS, Spontaneous Combustibility Syndrome! While I was on fire, doctors decided they had to remove my legs or I might burn to the ground! In their zeal to work quickly, they cut too high up and accidentally severed my head from my body. I was going to sue the hospital until the doctors pointed out how lucky I am! I'll never again have to suffer with things like backaches, or liver problems or even a heart attack, since I no longer have those organs!

This is a sad, sad story indeed! But luckily for us, it gets even more tragic! And that's what we strive for! Milking those tears out of the audience!

Then my wife died during child birth! No, not giving birth to our child, but while assisting her best friend! While writhing in pain as the baby was emerging, she accidentally kicked my wife out of an 18th story window of the hospital! In a bizarre twist, she landed on and crushed our only car. I was left alone to raise our two kids!

Every week, we do a project that normally take at least four months to complete! Two years to complete if done by union workers! Three years if it was done up to building code!

Sure, that's fast, but what we put up, stays up! Well, it stays up long enough for our cameras to record it! Once it's on tape, of course, we're outta there, so we rarely hear "Timber" if the house falls down! But we always warn the families to heavily insure the place, because even if it stands up, how safe is a house where the electricians were given just four hours to wire it top to bottom!

We forever change the lives of the families we choose! Not only by renovating their homes, but by burying, burning and destroying important papers, stocks and bonds, family heirlooms, priceless once-in-a-lifetime photos, everything they left behind! After all, we only give them 20 minutes to clear out their life's belongings before we send them on vacation!

ARTIST: TOM RICHMOND WRITER: DICK DEBARTOLO

If you could have anything, what would you like to see in your own room?

I'm crazy about roller coasters! I'd love to see them all over my bedroom walls!

Guess what? Boats at sea go up and down just like roller coasters! Trust me, you'll love boats just as much as you love roller coasters!

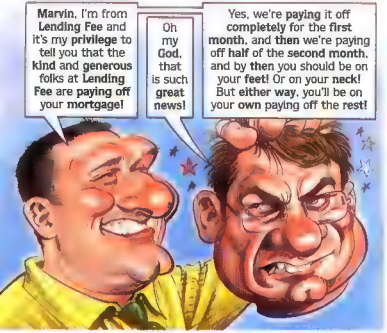
I hate boats! Boats make me seasick!

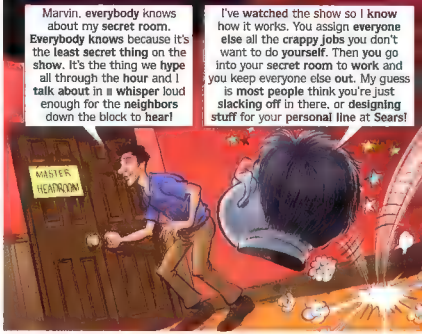
Not mine! I draw seasick-free boats! And that's what you're going to get!

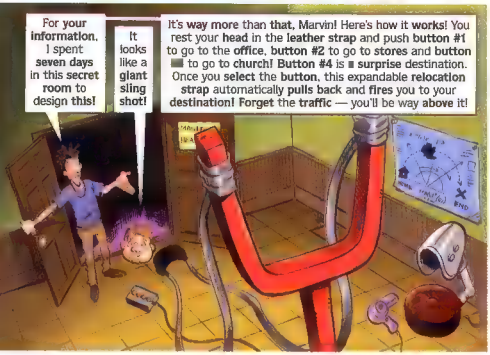
There goes the family! They're off on a four-day cruise to the Bahamas!

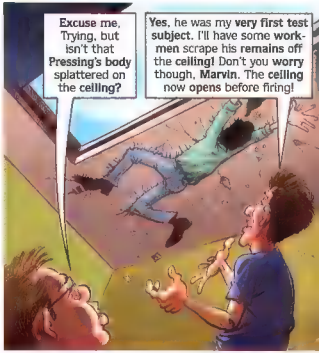
A four-day cruise? Isn't the family supposed to stay away for *seven* days?

No problem! Since our sponsor would only spring for a four-day cruise, we've arranged for customs to arrest them for three days when they return! The kids will get to experience what it's like to be in jail, which will help keep them out of trouble as they grow up!


Marvin, I'm from Lending Fee and it's my privilege to tell you that the kind and generous folks at Lending Fee are paying off your mortgage!
Oh my God, that is such great news!
Yes, we're paying it off completely for the first month, and then we're paying off half of the second month, and by then you should be on your feet! Or on your neck! But either way, you'll be on your own paying off the rest!


Marvin, everybody knows about my secret room. Everybody knows because it's the least secret thing on the show. It's the thing we hype all through the hour and I talk about in a whisper loud enough for the neighbors down the block to hear!
I've watched the show so I know how it works. You assign everyone else all the crappy jobs you don't want to do yourself. Then you go into your secret room to work and you keep everyone else out. My guess is most people think you're just slacking off in there, or designing stuff for your personal line at Sears!
MASTER BEDROOM


For your information, I spent seven days in this secret room to design this!
It looks like a giant sling shot!
It's way more than that, Marvin! Here's how it works! You rest your head in the leather strap and push button #1 to go to the office, button #2 to go to stores and button ■ to go to church! Button #4 is a surprise destination. Once you select the button, this expandable relocation strap automatically pulls back and fires you to your destination! Forget the traffic — you'll be way above it!


Excuse me. Trying, but isn't that Pressing's body splattered on the ceiling?
Yes, he was my very first test subject. I'll have some workmen scrape his remains off the ceiling! Don't you worry though, Marvin. The ceiling now opens before firing!

Well, team, we all did a hell of a job with the Lakely's home, especially me! But now let's take a peek at what we'll be doing next week. In this one house, there are 50 people living in substandard conditions!
50 people in one house? That's inhumane!
What kind of a house is that?
It's the poor house! And it's filled with all the local carpenters, electricians, plumbers and tradesmen — the poor schmucks we talked into donating goods and services to our show — far beyond what they could afford. Sure, we told them millions of people would watch the program, we just didn't tell them those millions of people probably couldn't care less about who gave up their life savings to be part of the program. But folks, that's show biz!

Cents-Less Coupons

Your money-saving circular

"Peanut butter and jelly...again!"
"Wow, my mom got me Pocket Fondue®!"
Sandwiches are boring!
Prepackaged box lunches suck!
School lunches suck even more!
That's why moms who care give their kids
POCKET FONDUE®
With a handful of bread and a canister of processed cheese food, you know your child is getting his recommended* daily handful of bread and canister of processed cheese food each day! And since each Pocket Fondue® kit comes complete with a sharp stainless steel fondue fork, a book of matches, and the flammable fuel used to melt the cheese in his pocket, you can be sure he's ready to defend himself on the playground, too — against the kids of parents who don't care.
*recommended by the makers of Pocket Fondue
SAVE NOW!
POCKET FONDUE
Snacks from your slacks!

MANUFACTURER'S COUPON
EXPIRES RIGHT ABOUT...NOW

Save 75¢ POCKET FONDUE®

To Our Customer: Offer good on any variety of Pocket Fondue®. But when you think about it, it's no big deal saving 75¢ now because you're going to need it later when you have to spend a lot more on expensive stain removers and dry cleaning to get all that congealed processed cheddar out of little Stevie's powder blue corduroys.

PHOTO: IRVING SCHILD WRITER: SCOTT MAIKO

Your sofa's been holding out on you!

STALEMATE'S Couch Cushion Mix®

YOUR LIVING ROOM KNOWS GOOD SNACKING BETTER THAN YOU DO!

That's why the coffee table hides that stray chocolate chip that broke away from the cookie you were eating. And why you'll find delicious macadamia nuts from last New Year's Eve beneath the ottoman. And why you feed your recliner's sweet tooth every time you sit in it eating caramel popcorn haphazardly balanced in a bowl on your gut.

Broken Pretzels!

Peanut Skins!

Cookie Crumbs!

Crushed Doritos!

Stray M&Ms!

Save 25¢

MFR COUPON
EXPIRES NOVEMBER 8TH. HEY, THAT'S MY BIRTHDAY!

Any size or variety of STALEMATE'S Couch Cushion Mix®

GROCER: Stalemate Foods, Inc. will reimburse the face value of this coupon plus handling if submitted in compliance with its Coupon Redemption Policy, the Patriot Act, the Monroe Doctrine and the rules for Mattel's SpongeBob SquarePants Race iii the Krusty Krab board game. Also, the Ten Commandments as interpreted by Hutton Gibson, and the standard waiver/release for contestants on *The Price Is Right*. Or you can just pay the measly 25¢ this nearly worthless coupon is "saving." Your choice.

Next time you get a craving for potato chip shards, flattened cheese puffs and your other favorite treats, don't pull the loveseat apart — just open a bag of Couch Cushion Mix!

DID YOU HEAR? AURAL HYGIENE JUST GOT A WHOLE LOT EASIER!

INTRODUCING THE NEW POWER SWAB® SYSTEM

EarJoy's new PowerSwab® System is the only power ear hygiene tool with an industrial-strength motor and swab heads that rotate at speeds of 5,000 rpm!*

MFR COUPON

HURRY! EXPIRES SOON (AND SO DO YOU!)

Save $2

on One (1) EarJoy PowerSwab® System.

RETAILER: Your redemption of this coupon signifies that you have a customer with a disgusting earwax problem. We're talking about Monopoly-hotel-sized wads of repulsive yellow-brown goop. Great big greasy, revolting gobs of aural discharge. It's probably infected and contagious. Avoid personal contact with customer at all costs.

From the makers of KASTRIL ROOTER.

*Manufacturer not responsible for temporary or permanent hearing loss. Please swab responsibly.

Now you can have the smell of freshly baked cookies with you all day long!

Introducing armpit-activated

COOKIE -D- OUGHDORANT

Chocolate Chip

Available in 3 refreshing scents:

Oatmeal Raisin

Pfeffernusse

Regular deodorant disappears soon after it's applied.

Cookie-D-oughdorant stays with you all day long!

Save 75¢

on Cookie D-oughdorant

MANUFACTURER'S COUPON
EXPIRES NOON, TUESDAY

CONSUMER: Limit one coupon per purchase. Don't be clipping ten of these things from ten other papers and expect to get $7.50 off the purchase of a single Cookie-D-oughdorant. Then we'd owe you money, unless you were dumb enough to pay $7.50 or more for this stuff. Consumer pays any sales tax. You're on your own there. Isn't it enough that we're knocking almost a buck off the price, you ungrateful lout? Good only on products indicated. What, are you going to clip this coupon and then try to redeem it on Fruit By The Foot?

One Fine Morning In the Windy City

Well, Mr. Trump, what do you think?
Trump Tower Chicago! It's gorgeous — the most amazing building ever constructed in the history of the world!

And it's all finished!
I beg to differ. It's not finished until The Donald says it's finished! And there's one last detail to be added, one final crowning touch!

ARTIST: PAUL COKER WRITER: SCOTT MENDENHALL

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activision.com

WHAT'S THE DEAD END JOB WHERE THERE INEXPLICABLY SEEMS TO BE NO SHORTAGE OF APPLICANTS?

HERE WE GO WITH ANOTHER RIDICULOUS

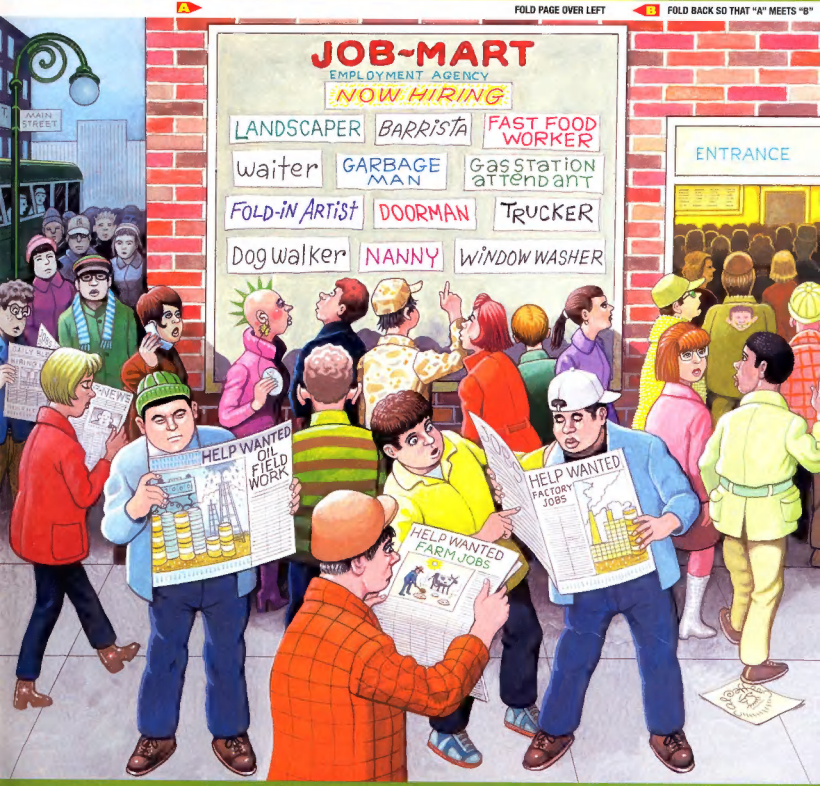
MAD FOLD-IN

There are a lot of jobs out there that offer no future for those who take them. Despite the dire nature of these employment opportunities there is still a big boom of applicants. To find out what job this is, fold page in as shown.

FOLD PAGE OVER LIKE THIS!

A FOLD PAGE OVER LEFT

B FOLD BACK SO THAT "A" MEETS "B"



SOME PEOPLE FIND CERTAIN DEAD END JOBS SUIT THEM. IT'S HARD TO IMAGINE HOW THEY DECIDE TO TAKE JOBS WITH NO FUTURE. THOUGH IT'S BOUND TO END BADLY, MORE AND MORE NEW MEMBERS ARE SIGNING UP ALMOST DAILY

ARTIST AND WRITER: AL JAFFEE

WHAT'S THE DEAD END JOB WHERE THERE INEXPLICABLY SEEMS TO BE NO SHORTAGE OF APPLICANTS?

FOLD PAGE OVER LIKE THIS!

A B FOLD BACK SO THAT "A" MEETS "B"

SUICIDE

BOMBERS

A B

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